



THE SEAELK TIMES

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IMPORTANT DATES:

December:

5th – Hanukkah
24th – Christmas Eve
25th – Christmas Day
31st – New Year's Eve

January:

1st – New Year's Day
21st – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

HMM-166 (REIN) Marine Corps Air Station Miramar



CO's Corner

Greetings from the Bay of Bengal,

One month down already. We are just leaving from off the coast of Bangladesh. We spent the last several days providing humanitarian/disaster relief to the people of Bangladesh following Cyclone Sidr. Your Marines did a fantastic job either providing food and medical teams to the people most in need or supporting those who did. A few of our Marines got the opportunity to go ashore and help unload supplies from the back of the helicopters.

We should have hit our first port call by the time you get this, so hopefully the Marines will get a chance to unwind a little bit. Although we are scheduled to be at sea for Christmas, after seeing Bangladesh we are truly happy for what we have.

Semper Fidelis and may God bless you during the Christmas Holidays.

Mailing Addresses:

PERSONAL MAIL

GRADE NAME USMC
HMM 166 (SECTION)
UNIT 41081
FPO AP 96610-1081

OFFICIAL MAIL

COMMANDING OFFICER
ATTN (SECTION, TITLE OR NAME)
HMM 166
UNIT 41081
FPO AP 96610-1081

Deployment Links and Resources:

Official 11th MEU Website: www.usmc.mil/11thmeu

Squadron Website: **This link has changed. Please use the one below.**

www.usmc.mil/11thmeu/hmm166web/ace.htm

Free Calling Cards: www.operationuplink.org (only works on land, sorry)

Hug-a-Hero Dolls: www.daddydolls.com

USS Tarawa Care Line: 619-685-2846 - information from the ship

US Postal Service: 1-800-275-8777 (Military Pack) – To order free shipping supplies for deployed military family members



SgtMaj Sounds Off:

Greetings SeaElk Family,

I hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. The Marines received a bountiful feast served by the CO, Officers and SNCOs. Nothing can compare to a home cooked meal but our cooks did a magnificent job by preparing many of our holiday favorites.

Believe it or not, time is not standing still, we have been deployed for over a month and the pace continues to move at a rapid rate. I know for all of the kids, the count down until Christmas is on.... although we cannot be home this holiday season, know that our thoughts and prayers are with our families and friends always.

Congratulations to all of the Marines that received awards or promotions during the month of December. Congratulations also to Cpl Favian Bautista and Cpl Theresa Ziegler, these Marines were meritoriously promoted to their current rank. There are so many Marines in our unit that contribute greatly to accomplishing the mission. I only wish that we could recognize them all.

Shipboard life can have its challenges, zero privacy, limited living and work space and wearing our uniform day in and day out. Even with those challenges, our Marines continue to get the mission accomplished and maintain their professionalism.

Thank you for taking care of the home front!

Happy Holidays,
SgtMaj Harrell

Message from XO:



Marines and Family Members of HMM-166 (REIN),

This first month was spent getting use to the daily routine aboard ship. As we made our way across the Pacific Ocean passing Hawaii and Guam, we stayed extremely busy. The squadron conducted routine flight operations in order to keep the aircrew proficient which leads to ongoing professional maintenance by your Marines. Long hours were spent keeping the aircraft up and ready to go. All the shops spaces were made secure for heavy weather in case we see any on our transit, and the entire ship conducted an abandon ship drill to make sure everyone knows their assigned positions and responsibilities. It hasn't been all work though, we did find some time to enjoy the holidays associated with November.

We had a nice celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday on the flight deck with the traditional ceremonial cutting of the cake and reading of General Lejeune's message along with the Commandant's Birthday message. That was followed by a steak and lobster dinner for all the Marines embarked. Thanksgiving was celebrated with a day off and a traditional dinner of turkey, stuffing, potatoes and pumpkin pie. The only down side was that we had passed the international date line, so Thursday for us was Wednesday back home which meant no football.

The United Through Reading Program is up and running, so be sure to ask your loved ones if they have been taking advantage of it. It is run by the chaplains on board and allows Marines to record a DVD of them reading a book to send to family members back home. The chaplains supply the books, DVDs, and envelopes, so it couldn't be any easier.

Due to internet connectivity issues we are still having difficulty updating the squadron website. Please continue to try to access it along with the 11th MEU's website and we will continue to try and provide timely updates.

Once again, thanks for your dedication and sacrifice. Mission First, Marines Always.

Semper Fi,
LtCol Shawn W. McKee
Executive Officer HMM-166 (Rein)

Department of Safety and Standardization:

The month of November has been an eventful one for the Department of Safety and Standardization. Prior to our embarkation on the USS Tarawa we received news that our NATOPS/Safety NCOIC Sgt James Lee was selected to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Congratulations Sgt Lee. In our NATOPS shop, Capt Lokar, Capt Kruse, Capt Chambless, and 1st Lt Sherwood have been keeping busy with a semi-annual NATOPS jacket audits and maintaining the squadron's NATOPS program. Capt Lokar has been coordinating a series of informative lectures to be presented to the squadron pilots for professional development while we are underway called Moose-U. Capt Chambless reviewed and updated the AV-8B sections of the Squadron Standard Operating Procedures and has been working on his pilot qualifications. Capt Kruse and 1stLt Sherwood worked together to create a user-friendly wind limitations binder for the control tower here on the boat. 1stLt Sherwood and several other CH-46E pilots have departed our ranks temporarily on a four aircraft detachment aboard the USS Cleveland, the LPD in our Expeditionary Strike Group. We wish them good luck south of the equator. Capt Sabourin, our Aviation Safety Officer has been almost constantly busy researching various HAZREPs, compiling squadron data for the annual safety awards, and providing valuable insight to the regular review of the daily flight schedule. Our Ground Safety Officer, 1stLt DeMars has been making good use of his time answering the safety concerns received through our "AnyMoose" program, and regularly touring the squadron work spaces, flight, and hangar decks to ensure a safe working environment exists for our Marines. With Thanksgiving behind us we're gearing up for Christmas underway, and a safe and happy New Year working in the CENTCOM area of responsibility. Keep alert and stay safe back home, we're keeping it that way out here on WESTPAC.

S-1 Administration:

Greetings SeaElk Marines and families,

Happy holidays from the Administrative Department. The first month of deployment was busy for the department as we spent most of the month stabilizing our rosters as well as welcoming a new administrative chief into the office days before we set sail.

Unfortunately, our administrative chief, GySgt Huerta, became medically non-deployable just prior to deployment pending a medical procedure. Notified barely a week prior to departure, Sgt Kawika Simeona dutifully prepared his household and his wife for a long, surprise deployment. He joins the squadron from the newly formed Installation Personnel Administration Center (IPAC) where he served as the Quality Assurance Chief. He was in the process of creating policies and procedures for this new administrative concept when he was tasked with joining the SeaElk. We were extremely lucky to receive such an experienced and talented replacement for GySgt Huerta, whose experience and expertise were invaluable in preparing us for deployment. GySgt Huerta is still providing support for us from San Diego and hopefully will rejoin the squadron later in the deployment.

Congratulations to Capt Venci who successfully passed his Aircraft Commander Board and has been recommended for entry into the Aircraft Commander syllabus. 1stLt Friday and Cpl Villaneda were chosen to take part in a four aircraft CH-46E detachment to the USS Cleveland, which departed at the end of the month. Both of them should get plenty of valuable flight experience as part of a unique, small unit detachment and we will be ready to welcome them back in roughly a month from now.

As a department, we have worked extremely hard to ensure all past travel claims are settled and that all deployed pay and entitlements have been properly processed; if you have any administrative questions, feel free to contact anyone in the department. Have a safe and happy holiday season,

Major Andrew P. "Lou" Albano
HMM-166 (Rein) Administrative Officer

S-4 SUPPORT:

The Squadron's S-4 shop ensured the ship was properly loaded in a safe and timely manner before deploying. Cpl Martin and PFC Burton spent long days preparing cargo at the squadron, while Cpl Grantham and LCpl Grissom spent long days at the port ensuring proper loading aboard the ship in preparation for the deployment. Additionally, Cpl Bowyer ensured the AV-8B detachment's equipment was transported from Yuma MCAS to the 32nd Street pier for embarkation. At the end of November, the S-4 was instrumental in moving 40 Marines, four CH-46E helicopters, and over 10,000 pounds of cargo to the USS Cleveland. They will conduct operations apart from the USS Tarawa for several weeks before joining back with the Air Combat Element (ACE). When the S-4 is not involved in the embarkation and retrograde for the squadron, they are ensuring that the air combat element has all the necessary supplies to conduct operations about the ship.

Cpl Spillane (MIMMS) ensured all ground equipment was ready for deployment including armor for HMMWV's, panel markers, and many additional items. Cpl Spillane and Cpl Knopes (Supply) ordered the extra parts needed to ensure vehicle repairs can be conducted in a timely manner. Supplies are received during replenishment at sea (RAS) and Cpl Knopes manages the tracking of all parts on order.

LCpl Rigdon's daily functions include accounting of weapons and ensuring they are properly maintained. Additionally, he issues all weapons to ACE Marines for exercises and training.

The MWSS team has been busy on the flight deck of the USS Tarawa. The fuels division has pumped over 50,000 gallons of fuel within three weeks, supporting the ACE flight operations.

Operations Department:

The 5th of November 2007 saw the end of the 11 MEU "work-up" and the sailing of the USS Tarawa, as part of WESTPAC 08-1. With all embarked we pushed out of San Diego and quickly settled into our normal routine which we had become accustomed to during the "work-ups", focusing on the tasks ahead. Daily, weekly, and monthly schedules were produced in efficient fashion, as the ever necessary flying hours, graphs, charts, and reports were issued under the watchful eye of SSgt Trylonda Keller. On top of the normal tasking, Operations had numerous exercises providing ample work for Captains Rob Casillas, John Charlton, and John Beal to get their teeth into. As we were soon to discover, our plans were to change not once but countless times (no plan survives first contact!).

We headed west across the Pacific with numerous options open to us providing no end of planning. As we labored through the planning we continued to press with flying and maintaining currencies. Day and night flights were accomplished despite the best efforts of the weather and the ever present requirement to keep speed and movement west. Dark moonless nights brought shivers of apprehension (Maj Tim Fitzpatrick seen running to hide in his room), while the blazing moon saw the Field Grade Officers come to life. Pax, Mail and Cargo (PMC) were conducted to the other ships within the Strike Group and to ports we passed en route such as Hawaii and Guam.

Amongst the standard qualifications, the ACE strived to rehearse other core skills: gun shoots, instrument flying, and tactical maneuvers to mention a few. At times this proved challenging with sea markers (dye stained water) hard to spot, plus avoiding simulated threats and diving for cover proved difficult over the sea. 1stLt Gabe Crane's claims to have a cloaking device met with silence and the rolling of eyes! Numerous ground serials were also pieced together by Sgt Antonio Peters and Captain Ankur Kumar, focused on keeping the unit in high readiness and up to date on annual Marine Corps skills.

As we passed Singapore we dispatched four CH-46s under the illustrious command of Major Brad Trager, destined for the USS Cleveland and participation in a separate exercise. Fingers crossed we will meet back up in December. We continue to plan ahead.....

S. P. Edmondson
Major Royal Marines

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:

The first month at sea has been a challenging time. Leaving home and loved ones behind as well as some uncertainty to the where we are heading and what our mission will be. In spite of any frustrations and challenges the Marines of the HMM-166(REIN) have responded as professionals and have made the first month a tremendous success. The Maintenance Marines have kept a positive attitude, at least in public, and have accomplished everything the squadron has asked of them. I could not be more proud of each and every one of them. I expect this to be a great cruise with a great group of Marines. Below are some of the highlights from some of the individual shops.

Semper Fi

Major Joe Williams

HMM-166(REIN) Aviation Maintenance Officer

QUALITY ASSURANCE:

After getting underway, the Quality Assurance shop was still in some pretty tight quarters. As many of you know, our "space" consisted of a hallway we shared with a couple other maintenance shops. Luckily, we were able to move into our own space and all the Marines are much happier. We officially joined our Harrier brothers, SSgt Haven and SSgt Leblanc; both Marines are well integrated into the shop. Sgt Tegeder is our newest QAR; he joined us from the Avionics shop and we expect good things from him. This is PFC Rucker's first deployment and he's adjusting well to boat life. The rest of the Marines, while not on their first deployment, are all doing well, too. There have been a lot of adjustments to make and we've had to work closely with the Navy, but they have all done a fantastic job making sure no one gets hurt and nothing gets broken. At the end of the month, Capt Ludick and SSgt Atkinson left to be part of the detachment to the USS Cleveland to support a theater security exercise in the Maldives and we expect to see them back sometime in December.

FLIGHTLINE / POWERLINE:

Flightline had a successful first month of deployment maintaining healthy aircraft throughout all five different types of aircraft and staying ahead of the game. Congratulations to Cpl Soper and PFC Cecil on becoming the latest CH-46E Plane Captains and to SSgt Rolfe on being promoted to GySgt. Flightline would also like to welcome Sgt Wellington to the shop; he joined in Hawaii after the squadron was already underway. Finally, congratulations to LCpl Flugeman, who's from our AV-8B detachment, who will be promoted to Corporal on the 1st of December.

MAINTENANCE ADMIN

The Maintenance Administration shop is a vital tool in the success of aviation maintenance. This past month, this shop has facilitated and screened over 3500 maintenance actions with two different logistics systems. It has been responsible for the smooth operation of the data system that the maintenance department relies on to effectively manage its priorities and people.

MAINTENANCE CONTROL:



Since the 11th MEU (SOC) departed on Nov 5, Maintenance Control has faced many challenges in its mission thus far. Maintenance Control Marines have ensured the upkeep and the training of 55 pilots in 5 different types of aircraft. That combined with its tireless efforts to keep safe and well maintained war machines operational has kept the 11th MEU ACE at an impressive readiness level. Maintenance Control was able to coordinate the heavy maintenance required to keep pilots and their new well trained to fly, as well as prepare the aircraft to be able to fly any mission the Marine Corps or the country requires of the MEU. It has been a successful month here in the SeaElk Airframes shop. We made it through all the work-ups and successfully set sail and are already closing in on one month at sea. We recently had 3 Marines temporarily relocated to the USS Cleveland along with 4 of our CH-46 aircraft in order to support exercise in the Maldives. We are continuing to adjust to shipboard life, as well as integrating the Harrier detachment fully into the squadron. We had a number of promotions in November so congratulations to Sergeants Saunders and Whitman as well as to Lcpl Tejeda. Sgt Chilenski, Cpl Monroe and Lcpl Bousaka all earned their CDI qualification. We also welcomed two new Marines Cpl Germain and PFC McCarthy; it's good to have them aboard.

AVIONICS:

The Avionics division has continued its outstanding performance by ensuring that every aircraft is ready for any mission. We want to be the first to congratulate the Marines on their promotions. Lcpl Kampa has been promoted to Cpl, Cpl Tarnow has been promoted to Sgt, and Sgt Jines is the newest member of the SNCO ranks. Sgt Hollingsworth has been selected to the rank of SSgt.

ORDNANCE:

We concentrated on cross training all personnel to conduct loads on all platforms. We concurrently supported all training missions with required munitions' loads. Performed maintenance on all type model aircraft and repaired numerous gripes. SSgt Hernandez and Cpl Royce left to rendezvous with the USS Cleveland for follow on operations. During their off hours, Cpl Doyle and SSgt Hernandez participated in an ACE spades tournament and placed second.

Promotions and Awards:

December:

Awards:

Air Medal – Cpl Garner

Certificate of Commendation – LCpl Putman

Good Conduct Medal –

LCpl Archuleta and Bates

Cpl Bowers, Bullock, Bynum, Chapman,

Garner, Gary, Herman, Hernandez,

Lyman, Mendezbaez, Rodriguez, Shirley,

Smolios, Soper, Wayte, Wentworth,

Whiteside and Wood

Mertorius Mast –

PFC Grissom

LCpl Cruz, Kampa, Martin and Roch

Cpl Chapman and Ruiz

Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal –

Capt Dixon and Lt Laughlin

Promoted to Private First Class:

Pitre

Promoted to Lance Corporal:

Henley, Laplante and Rucker

Promoted to Corporal:

Bezold, Flugeman, Hennessy, Kampa, Stafford, Wearp and Wyatt

Promoted to Sergeant:

Ackerman, Bentacourt, Calzada, Roman and Tarnow

Promoted to Staff Sergeant:

Carroll, Griscom and Jines

Promoted to Gunnery Sergeant:

Sousa

Deployment Pictures:



USS Tarawa sets sail November 5, 2007



Humanitarian / relief efforts in Bangladesh



The people of Bangladesh



CH-53 Crew
Left to Right - Capt Welch, MSgt Clawson,
SSgt Stetler and Maj Albano

A WORD FROM THE FRO:

Hopefully this newsletter finds everyone safe and in good health back at home. We have just wrapped up a week of Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief to the people of Bangladesh. I can pretty much guarantee that everyone on board was happy to finally have something to do and focus on. A few of us have never flown over a foreign country before or have seen people suffering from a disaster. It was truly an eye opening experience for us all. You should be proud of the hard work your Marines did to help a struggling nation recover from a devastating storm.

This month we welcomed two new SeaElk to the squadron. Both Sgt Westbrook's and Sgt Garcia's families are now one member larger. Congratulations to both spouses on going through labor and delivery without their husbands by their side.

I would just close by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Resources and Happenings:



Hello SeaElk Families,

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the Thanksgiving Potluck, I know I sure did. Well December is here and everyone is busy shopping and getting ready for Christmas. I know a lot of you will be traveling during the holiday season. Please remember to let your KV know if you'll be out of town and the best way to contact you. I hope to see you all at the Christmas Party this Sunday Dec. 9th. Santa will be arriving with a gift for each child and we will be making Christmas cards.

I wish you and your family a very joyful and safe holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

KVC

HMM-166(REIN)

Are you controlling you money or is your money controlling you?

One of the greatest satisfactions in life is having a sense of control over your finances. Through careful planning and use of money management techniques that anyone can learn, a family can feel more confident about its ability to live within its means, reduce debt, handle emergencies and save for the future. Understanding how to manage money and developing the discipline to do it well can make a real difference in your life.

Through private counseling, the Financial Management Counselor at the Marine Corps Community Services will help you take six basic steps to Successful Money Management.

Learn how to for free:

- Assess your current financial situation
- Develop a spending plan & tracking system
- Balance your checkbook
- Manage Debt
- Take charge of credit
- Set financial goals

For Additional Information: Call Craig Hughes

Financial Management Counselor (858) 577-9802

EDUCATION CENTER

(858) 577-1801 • Bldg. 5305 (The HUB)

Mon-Thu (6:30am-5pm) / Fri (6:30am-3pm)

Whether you're finishing up or just getting started, the Education Center has innumerable ways for you to reach your educational goals. The Education Center includes classrooms in which local colleges teach a wide range of courses. The Center currently offers programs at the certificate, associates, bachelors and masters levels. They also proctor exams such as Military Classification Tests, the CLEP, SAT and ACT. The staff is highly in tune with the demands of military life and has developed several programs that enable military personnel to advance educationally in spite of obstacles. The programs include courses via the internet, SMART transcripts and the Military Apprenticeship Program. In addition to all of these programs and courses, the Education Center has knowledgeable and helpful staff on hand to answer questions and provide valuable information concerning your educational interests. So, whether you want to earn a degree or simply gain a new skill, the Education Center offers flexible and effective ways to further your goals and maximize your time.

Deployment Support

The Deployment Support Groups for Children and Teens meet weekly at The Teen Center bldg 2246 in the Part Day

Preschool Room.

Please call Patti for more information at 858-437-7841

Grades K-2 Mondays 3:15-4pm

Middle Schoolers Mondays 4:15-5pm

Preschoolers Tuesdays 2-2:45 pm

Grades 3-5 Tuesdays 3:15-4pm

Preschoolers Wednesday 2:30pm-3:15pm

Grades K-2 Wednesday 3:45-4:30pm

The Spouses Deployment Support Group meets Fridays at the L.I.N.K.S. House. Groups meet from 10:00-11:00am and 12:00-1:00pm. Childcare is available at the Youth Center.

To sign up for childcare please call
858-577-1322.

New Parent Support Program

(858) 577-9812 • Bldg. 2273 • Mon-Fri (8am-4pm)

There is nothing more exciting and challenging than becoming a parent. To assist you at this time, the Marine Corps offers, free of charge, the services of the New Parent Support Program. Our support system serves Marine Corps families with children age five and under. This free, voluntary program has been available at 17 Marine Corps bases all over the world since 1993. In our program, licensed clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and registered nurses provide classes and support to our Marine families who are expecting and/or have a child 5 years or under. Such classes include:

- [Baby Boot Camp](#) - For couples and single expectant moms and dads
- [Mom's Basic Training](#) - Specifically directed toward our active duty expectant moms

Classes for parents *already* with children include:

- [Successful Parenting](#)
- [Play Morning](#)

Our social workers, Marriage and Family Therapist (MFTs) and nurses also provide one-on-one support to families in their homes. All of our home visitors are highly qualified and eager to help in any way they can. They have extensive referral information regarding other classes and support programs such as WIC, Lamaze, food programs and counseling to name just a few.

The New Parent Support Program is a support system for Marine Corps families with children age five and under. This free, voluntary program has been available at 17 Marine Corps bases all over the world since 1993.

Children Youth & Teen Programs

Parent's Night Out 858-577-4136

****ADDITIONAL NIGHTS ADDED****

From 4:30pm-11:30pm at the Youth Center

Dec 15

Dec 22

Jan 5

Jan 19

Reservations can be made on the 1st Monday of the month prior to the parent's night out.

Counseling Center

(858) 577-6585 • Bldg. 2274

**Mon-Thu (0730 - 1630) / Fri (0730 - 1600) /
Sat, Sun & Holidays (Closed)**

Our mission is to provide effective counseling services that will assist active duty Service Members and their families in overcoming their personal and family problems, resulting in healthier and more productive relationships. Our organizational objects are the following: (1) to prevent family violence; (2) to identify the occurrence of spouse and child abuse; (3) to assess offenders and victims of family violence and victims of sexual assault; (4) to provide quality, professional treatment to Marines and their families.

Spouses' Learning Series (SLS)

(858) 577-4810

The Spouses' Learning Series is a three-tiered program providing Marine Corps spouses the opportunity to further their personal and professional growth. With the combination workshops and online educational courseware provides skills and educational development in the following areas: Relationship Building, Personal and Professional Empowerment, Goal Setting, Self-care, Stress Reduction and Life/Work Balance. The Spouses' Learning Series is provided by MCCS and hosted by Marine Corps Family Team Building. It was designed to equip participants with the techniques and skills to make them more effective and successful in leadership roles. Specifically, the workshop focuses on leadership fundamentals such as goal setting and organization, delegating authority, leading meetings, getting results from volunteers, and building successful teams. The material is focused on Marine spouses, but military spouses from every service will also find the seminar vital. Active duty military are also strongly encouraged to attend.

There is no fee to the participant for the seminar.

Devil Pups Corner:

The newest Devil Pup:

- Congratulations to Cpl & Mrs. Westbrook on the birth of a healthy baby boy, Carter Wayne. Carter was born on December 2nd. He weighed 6 lbs 14oz and 19 in. long.
- Also, Congratulations to Sgt. & Mrs. Garcia on the birth of a little girl, Isabella Ann. Isabella was born on December 2nd. She weighed 5 lbs 15 oz and 19 in. long.



DEC 22 • 10AM - 1 AM

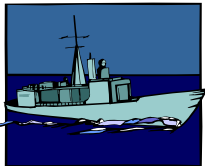


FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL (858) 577-6959

Operation Kid Comfort

Operation Kid Comfort Quilts are for children of deployed service men and women. To receive a quilt, please submit the completed form along with nine photographs per child [in email, CD or regular pictures] that will help the child cope during the parent's deployment. As all materials and services are donated, there is no fee for this program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO: <http://www.militaryymca.org/content/view/25/51/>



UNITED THROUGH READING® Update

Educational Benefits

➤ Studies prove that the most important thing adults can do in preparing young children for success in school is to read aloud with them.

Amid the clangs, whistles, and other customary sounds you would expect onboard the **USS Tarawa and USS Cleveland**; a new sound is being heard. It is the sound of Marines reading to their children though they are thousands of miles away. The **USS Tarawa and USS Cleveland** are participating in United Reading, which provides deployed Active Duty personnel the opportunity to read stories aloud on videotape to the special children in their lives back home.

Marines either select a book from the ship's onboard library or read a book they have packed with them. They are videotaped reading the book, and then the tape (and book if owned by the Marine) is sent home to the child who can watch and follow along with a copy of the book. One of the best parts of this program is the opportunity for your child to view the tape over and over again. According to research, reading aloud has been shown to be the single best predictor in a child's future academic success. Encourage your Marine to

participate in United Through Reading and bring their face and voice into your home even when they can't be there. Share with your **United Through Reading Homefront coordinator Vanessa Lee** your family's reactions to your first video!

HMM-166(REIN) FAMILY EVENTS PICTURES

Halloween Party on October 10th



Enjoying Halloween stories!



Picture time!!

Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner / Marine Corps Birthday Celebration on November 11th



Picture time after everyone had stuffed themselves.



Celebrating one Marine Corps tradition

MCCS Miramar Directory:**Important Numbers:**

Base Information:.....(858) 577-1011
ID Cards:.....(858) 577-1421
American Red Cross:.....(619) 542-7400
Navy-Marine Corps Relief:
(858) 577-1801
TRICARE:.....(888) TRIWEST
TRICARE Dental:.....(800) 866-8499

MCCS Facilities:

Administration
 Bldg. 2273.....577-4099
Athletics
 Bldg. 2471.....577-4127
Auto Hobby Shop
 Bldg.6673.....577-1215
Auto Resale lot. 577-1215
Big Bear Recreational Facility
 Big Bear. (909) 866-3965 Reservations. .
 . . . 577-4126/4141
Bowling Center
 Bldg.2525.....577-4131
Career Resource Center
 Bldg. 5305.....577-6491
Catering (Officers' Club)
 Bldg.4472.....577-4814
Counseling Center
 Bldg. 2274.....577-6585
Education Center
 Bldg.5305.....577-1801
Enlisted Club
 Bldg.5509.....693-1524
Enlisted Recreation Center
 The Great Escape
 Bldg. 5509.....577-6171
Entertainment Ticket Office
 Bldg. 2524.....577-4126/4141
Entertainment Tickets Limited
 Bldg. 2660 (MCX).....536-8257
Equipment Rental
 Outdoor Adventure Center
 Bldg.6673.....577-4150
Fish Pond577-4150
 Pless Avenue near west gate
Fitness Center (Main)
 Miramar Sports Complex
 Bldg. 2471.....577-4128
Fitness Center (New)
 Semper Fit Center
 Bldg. 2002.....577-4654
Fitness Center (Annex)
 The Barn
 Bldg. 7115.....577-6042

Travel
 Bldg. 2524.....578-3049
Library
 Bldg.5305.....577-1261
Miramar Inn
 Bldg.2516.....271-7111
Museum
 Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum
 Bldg. T4203.....693-1723
Officers' Club
 Bldg. 4472.....577-4808
Park Reservations (Mills Park & Youth Sports Complex)
 Reservations577-4099
Relocation Office
 Bldg. 2258.....577-1428

Sports & Aquatics Office
 Bldg. 2471.....577-1202
Stables
 East Miramar 577-4139
Staff NCO Club
 Bldg. 5509.....577-4829
Swimming Pools
 WST Pool. 577-4137/4140
 Officers' Pool.....577-4154
Theater
 Bldg.2242.....577-4143
 Reservations577-4099
Vehicle Storage. 577-4150
Veterinary Clinic
 Bldg. 6248.....577-6552
Youth/Teen Center
 Bldg.2247.....577-4136

MCCS Programs:

Chaplain's Religious Enrichment Development Operation (CREDO)
 Chapel.....577-1333
Drug Demand Reduction/ Prevention Program
 Bldg. 2274 577-4411/7285
Exceptional Family Member Program
 Bldg. 2274.....577-9807

Family Counseling
 Bldg. 2274.....577-6585
Health Promotion Office
 Bldg. 2273 577-1331/7963
Information and Referral
 Bldg. 2274.....577-8644
Key Volunteer Network (KVN)
 Bldg. 2273.577-1322
Lifestyle, Insight, Network, Knowledge and Skills (L.I.N.K.S.)
 Bldg.2273.....577-4810
New Parent Support Program
 Bldg.2274.....577-9812
Personal Financial Management
 Bldg. 2274.....577-9802

Miramar Exchange:***Main Store Complex***

Bldg. 2660
 Operator.....695-7288
 Recording.....695-7200
Barber Shop.....695-7260
Beauty Salon. 695-7227
Custom Services.....695-7241
Florist 695-7242
Laundry/Dry Cleaners. . 695-7238
Optical Shop. 695-7264
Optometrist.....695-7276

Tailor/Cobbler Shop

Bldg. 6275695-7283
Uniform Center
 Bldg. 6275695-7363
Video Rentals
 Bldg. 5638.....695-7209

Automotive Service Center Bldg. 6214

Administration. . 695-7251/7252
Auto Accessory Store . 695-7254
Auto Repairs. . . . 695-7255/7385
Budget Truck Rental.....695-7847